

1-1 By: Van de Putte S.B. No. 1940
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 12, 2009; March 24, 2009, read
1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Veteran Affairs and
1-4 Military Installations; April 6, 2009, reported adversely, with
1-5 favorable Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 4, Nays
1-6 0; April 6, 2009, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 1940 By: Davis

1-8 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-9 AN ACT

1-10 relating to the fund for veterans' assistance.

1-11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-12 SECTION 1. Subsections (a), (c), and (e), Section 434.017,
1-13 Government Code, as redesignated and amended by Chapter 1418 (H.B.
1-14 3107), Acts of the 80th Legislature, Regular Session, 2007, are
1-15 amended to read as follows:

1-16 (a) The fund for veterans' assistance is a special fund in
1-17 the state treasury outside the general revenue fund. The fund is
1-18 composed of:

1-19 (1) money transferred to the fund at the direction of
1-20 the legislature;

1-21 (2) money deposited to the credit of the fund under
1-22 Section 502.1746, Transportation Code;

1-23 (3) gifts and grants contributed to the fund; and

1-24 (4) ~~[(3)]~~ the earnings of the fund.

1-25 (c) Money in the fund may be appropriated to the Texas
1-26 Veterans Commission to:

1-27 (1) enhance or improve veterans' assistance programs,
1-28 including veterans' representation and counseling; ~~and~~

1-29 (2) make grants to ~~[local communities to]~~ address
1-30 veterans' needs; and

1-31 (3) administer the fund.

1-32 (e) To carry out any purpose of this chapter, the Texas
1-33 Veterans Commission may solicit and accept a gift, grant, devise,
1-34 bequest of money, security, service, or property, including money
1-35 raised or a service provided by a volunteer or volunteer group, to
1-36 promote the work of the commission. The commission may participate
1-37 in the establishment and operation of an affiliated nonprofit
1-38 organization that is established for the purpose of raising money
1-39 for or providing services or other benefits to the commission [The
1-40 comptroller may solicit and accept gifts and grants to the
1-41 fund]. A gift, ~~or~~ grant, devise, or bequest to the fund may be
1-42 appropriated in the same manner as other money in the fund, subject
1-43 to any limitation or requirement placed on the gift, ~~or~~ grant,
1-44 devise, or bequest by the donor or granting entity.

1-45 SECTION 2. Subchapter A, Chapter 434, Government Code, is
1-46 amended by adding Section 434.0171 to read as follows:

1-47 Sec. 434.0171. STATE EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTIONS TO FUND FOR
1-48 VETERANS' ASSISTANCE. For purposes of Subchapter I, Chapter 659:

1-49 (1) the Texas Veterans Commission, for the sole
1-50 purpose of managing the fund for veterans' assistance, is
1-51 considered an eligible charitable organization entitled to
1-52 participate in the state employee charitable campaign; and

1-53 (2) a state employee is entitled to authorize a
1-54 deduction for contributions to the Texas Veterans Commission for
1-55 the purposes of managing the fund for veterans' assistance as a
1-56 charitable contribution under Section 659.132, and the Texas
1-57 Veterans Commission may use the contributions for the purposes
1-58 listed in Section 434.017(c), as redesignated and amended by
1-59 Chapter 1418 (H.B. 3107), Acts of the 80th Legislature, Regular
1-60 Session, 2007.

1-61 SECTION 3. Subchapter D, Chapter 502, Transportation Code,
1-62 is amended by adding Section 502.1746 to read as follows:

1-63 Sec. 502.1746. VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION TO VETERANS'

2-1 ASSISTANCE FUND. (a) When a person registers a motor vehicle
2-2 under this chapter, the person is entitled to make a voluntary
2-3 contribution in any amount to the fund for veterans' assistance
2-4 established by Section 434.017, Government Code, as redesignated
2-5 and amended by Chapter 1418 (H.B. 3107), Acts of the 80th
2-6 Legislature, Regular Session, 2007.

2-7 (b) The county assessor-collector shall send any
2-8 contribution made under this section to the comptroller for deposit
2-9 in the state treasury to the credit of the fund for veterans'
2-10 assistance before the 31st day after the date the contribution is
2-11 made.

2-12 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
2-13 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
2-14 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
2-15 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
2-16 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

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